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TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

RUEHFSI/DIR FSINFATC IMMEDIATE

RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RUEHPH/CDC ATLANTA IMMEDIATE 7409

RUCPDOG/ALL USDOC DISTDIR COLLECTIVE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RHMCSUU/CDRAMC FT BELVOIR VA//AMCMI-SS// IMMEDIATE

RUEAHQA/HQ USAF WASHINGTON DC//XOXXI// IMMEDIATE

RHMCSUU/HQ AFOSI DOQ ANDREWS AFB MD//IVOA// IMMEDIATE

RHMCSUU/FAA NATIONAL HQ WASHINGTON DC//ACI-400// IMMEDIATE

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RHMCSUU/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RHMFUU/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

RHMFSS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE

RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE 6262

INFO RUESBKC/ATO ASIA IMMEDIATE 1839

UNCLAS STATE 025125

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [CASC](#) [ASEC](#) [KPAO](#) [PREL](#) [CN](#)

SUBJECT: TRAVEL ALERT - COMOROS

1. This Travel Alert is being issued to alert U.S. citizens of safety and security concerns in The Union of the Comoros because of the possibility of demonstrations in conjunction with a referendum in Mayotte from March 27 - 31, 2009. American citizens should consider carefully the risks of travel to Comoros during that time. This Travel Alert expires June 30, 2009.

2. On March 29, 2009, voters in Mayotte, a "Collective" in the Indian Ocean governed by France, will go to the polls to decide whether or not to become a "Department" of the Republic of France. French Departments are more integrated into French legal, institutional, and social structures than Collectives. Although Mayotte is currently administered by France, the Union of the Comoros also claims Mayotte. Comoran public opinion strongly favors the return of Mayotte to Comoros.

3. The potential reaction of Comorans is uncertain, but demonstrations are likely. Demonstrations on emotionally-charged issues have turned violent in the past. American visitors in the Comoros should exercise caution and vigilance, and avoid all large public gatherings before, during, and after the March 29 vote in Mayotte.

4. The Department of State urges American citizens to take responsibility for their own personal security while traveling overseas, to review emergency procedures and contingency plans, and to remain aware of their surroundings at all times.

5. American citizens considering travel to Comoros despite this Travel Alert are urged to register with the Department of State or the U.S. Embassy in Antananarivo, Madagascar, through the State Department's travel

registration website,
<https://travelregistration.state.gov>. By registering,
American citizens make it easier for the Embassy in
Antananarivo to contact them in case of emergency.
Please be sure to include your e-mail address and
cellular phone number.

¶6. There is no American Embassy in the Union of the
Comoros. The U.S. Embassy in Antananarivo has
jurisdiction over the Union of the Comoros. The Embassy
is located at 14-16 Rue Rainitovo, Antsahavola,
Antananarivo. The mailing address is B.P. 620,
Antsahavola, Antananarivo, Madagascar; telephone [261]
(20) 22-212-57 during regular business hours and for
after hours emergencies; fax [261] (20) 22-345-39. The
Consular Section e-mail address is
antanwarden@state.gov. The Embassy's web site is
located at <http://www.antananarivo.usembassy.gov>.

¶7. Updated information on travel and security in
Comoros may be obtained from the Department of State by
calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States
and Canada, or for callers outside the United States and
Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. For
further information, please consult the Country Specific
Information for the Comoros and the Worldwide Caution
available on the Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet
website at <http://travel.state.gov>.

¶8. Minimize considered.
CLINTON